



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

11362

[Docket No. HM-109; Notice 75-1]

TANK CAR TANK HEAD SHIELDS

Proposed Amendments

The Hazardous Materials Regulations Board is considering amending the requirements of Part 179 to provide for more flexibility and clarity in the specifications for applying the head shields to DOT 112A and 114A tank car tanks.

It is proposed to amend § 179.100-23 to include steels produced in accordance with ASTM specifications A515-70 and A516 GR70 and AAR specification TC 128A and B; provide that the inside edges of the shield are to be chamfered at least $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch; specify that the bottom of the head shield must touch the top of the center sill; and permit one-half of a tank car head to be used as a head shield. These amendments are being proposed to deal with matters raised in discussions between representatives of the Federal Railroad Administration, the Railway Progress Institute—Association of American Railroads Project Review Committee, and a shipper.

It is also proposed to provide a change in the tank car marking so that cars with head shields will display a different specification marking. This will be accomplished by substituting the letter "S" in place of the "A" in DOT 112A and DOT 114A for cars that have a head shield meeting the requirements of Part 179.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend 49 CFR Part 179 as follows:

In § 179.100, paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(2)(i), (ii), (v), and (vi) in § 179.100-23 would be revised; paragraph (a)(2)(vii) would be added to read as follows:

§ 179.100 General specification applicable to pressure tank car tanks.

§ 179.100-23 Head shields.

(a) . . .

(1) At least $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thick, and made from steel produced in accordance with specifications ASTM A242, A572 GR50, A515-70, A516 GR70 and AAR TC 128A and B.

(2) In the shape and size of the lower half of the head of the tank car or in the shape of a trapezoid with the following dimensions:

(i) A minimum width at the top of the

center sill of four feet six inches, measured in a straight line between the extreme edges.

(ii) A minimum width at the top of shield of 9 feet measured in a straight line between the extreme edges.

(v) All inside edges of the shield chamfered to a minimum of $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch.

(vi) A minimum height of four feet and six inches, and

(vii) Located so that the bottom of the shield touches the top of the center sill.

In § 179.101, footnote 12 would be added following the table in § 179.101-1(a) and reference thereto would be added in the following column headings: 112A200W, 112A340W, 112A400F¹², 112A400W, 112A500W, 114A340W, 114A400W.

§ 179.101 Individual specification requirements applicable to pressure tank car tanks.

§ 179.101-1 Individual specification requirements.

(a) . . .

¹²When tank car head shields meeting the requirements of § 179.100 have been applied, an "S" must be substituted for the "A" in the specification marking.

Interested persons are invited to give their views on this proposal. Communications should identify the docket number and be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received before April 15, 1975 will be considered before final action is taken on the proposal. All comments received will be available for examination by interested persons at the Office of the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, room 6215, Trans Point Building, Second and V Streets SW., Washington, D.C., both before and after closing date for comments.

This notice is issued under the authority of sections 831-835 of title 18, United States Code, and section 9 of the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. 1657).

Issued in Washington, D.C. on March 5, 1975.

R. H. WRIGHT,
Acting Associate Administrator,
Alternate Member, Hazardous
Materials Regulations Board.

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